

Dec. 16 1940
55 Somerset St.
Newark N.J.

Mr. C. M. Posey
808 Dixon St.
Homestead Pa.

Dear Posey:

I received your letter, and the same day one from Tom. I guess you both must have been thinking about the baseball in the same way. I could almost send you the same letter I sent Tom, but I decided to write you another one. I told Tom I feel a little lost where the baseball is concerned. There seem to me to be so many major problems. You ask me if I intend to enter baseball again. I guess all of us who have entered it for the first time must have a sincere love for the game, and that of course makes it that much harder to quit, but there are some things that as much as I love the game, and as much as I hate to let the race down I have definitely decided I will not go along with again. Probably the most important one is teams not having a home park. In my opinion this is the first essential to the successful operation of a baseball league.

Tom said in his letter that he heard Semler was having some trouble. I could not find out the details, but if for any reason Semler can not go on, there is a man in New York with money who wants a franchise in the league, but he must have New York for his home ground.

Our next major problem is the ball player situation. I have arrived at the conclusion I do not blame the ballplayers from going away where they can get more money. However it is positively stupid for us to sit idly by and not make an effort to protect ourselves in the future. In this view I have consulted a lawyer in whom I have a great deal of respect, and asked him what can be done. His opinion is that we should sign ballplayers to a contract like fighters sign. When you have a vested right in a man he can not leave you at will. As it is now, he says the men who have gone are so much water under the bridge. We should forget about them. He would like to attend our meeting, and talk to us. I believe he is interested in the baseball. I told Tom he will come to our meeting if it is any where near, if Tom sends him an invitation. In the meantime I imagine you may have read where the man I tried so hard to get you all to accept as commissioner of Negro Baseball